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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

Executive Registry

84-2770

2 JUL 1984

S-444/VP

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Request for National Estimate on Chemical Warfare (U)

Reference: CIA Study on Soviet Chemical Warfare (S).

1. (S) The CIA study and the briefings given to highlight its key conclusions have generated considerable interest within the Defense Department. We have discussed this subject with John McMahon and other members of your staff over the past several days. Secretary Weinberger has written to you expressing his concern, and I certainly endorse his request that the study not be disseminated outside of intelligence circles for the time being.
2. (S) Due to the personal interest expressed by the Secretary and General Vessey and evident differences of view in the Intelligence Community, I have concluded that a new national paper is required to communicate clearly the differing positions on the issues of Soviet chemical warfare capabilities and intentions. NIE 11-14-81 could be updated with a Memorandum to Holders focusing only on the chemical question or a separate Special National Intelligence Estimate could be developed.
3. (U) I request that this new national paper be prepared on an expeditious basis looking toward NFIB approval no later than mid-August.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James A. Williams", is positioned above the typed name and title.

JAMES A. WILLIAMS  
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army  
Director

Classified by VP  
Declassify on OADR

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